

TIMOTHY J. MCGINTY CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR

Former county employee faces corruption charges

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 10, 2013

Cleveland – A former Cuyahoga County weights-and-measures inspector has been indicted by a Grand Jury for filing false reports and bogus time cards, County Prosecutor Timothy J. McGinty announced today.

Lisa Rogers was charged with 61 felonies: 30 counts of Tampering with Government Records, 29 counts of Forgery, one count of Theft and one count of Theft in Office. Rogers, 39, was fired in August of 2012 from her job in the county's Fiscal Office after an internal investigation determined that she had certified the accuracy of scanners and scales in stores that she had never inspected and then signed time cards stating that he had worked during those hours.

Rogers is the daughter of another former county employee, Santina "Sandy" Klimkowski and was hired on to the public payroll by her mother's boss, former County Auditor Frank Russo. Both Klimkowski and Russo plead guilty to federal corruption charges.

"I would like to commend the Cuyahoga County Inspector General and our Director of Human Resources for identifying this wrongdoing early last year and for conducting a thorough investigation. We terminated this employee after they had shown a pattern of misconduct that simply could not be justified. We are glad to see that County Prosecutor McGinty agrees and would like to thank him and his office for their diligent work," said County Executive Ed FitzGerald.

"I've said it before and I'll say it again, illegal activity and corruption will be not tolerated in Cuyahoga County government," he added. "My Administration has and will continue to investigate and eliminate any instances of public corruption."

After a probe by Cuyahoga County's inspector general led to Rogers' dismissal, those findings were turned over to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office. The office then asked the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation to delve into the former employee's work patterns.

"Agents from BCI did a thorough job of investigating this case which has resulted in the indictment today of Lisa Rogers," said Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine. "Lisa Rogers violated the public trust by not performing her job duties and falsifying records, and today's indictment sends a strong message that these actions won't be tolerated."

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